

THE

LEADER

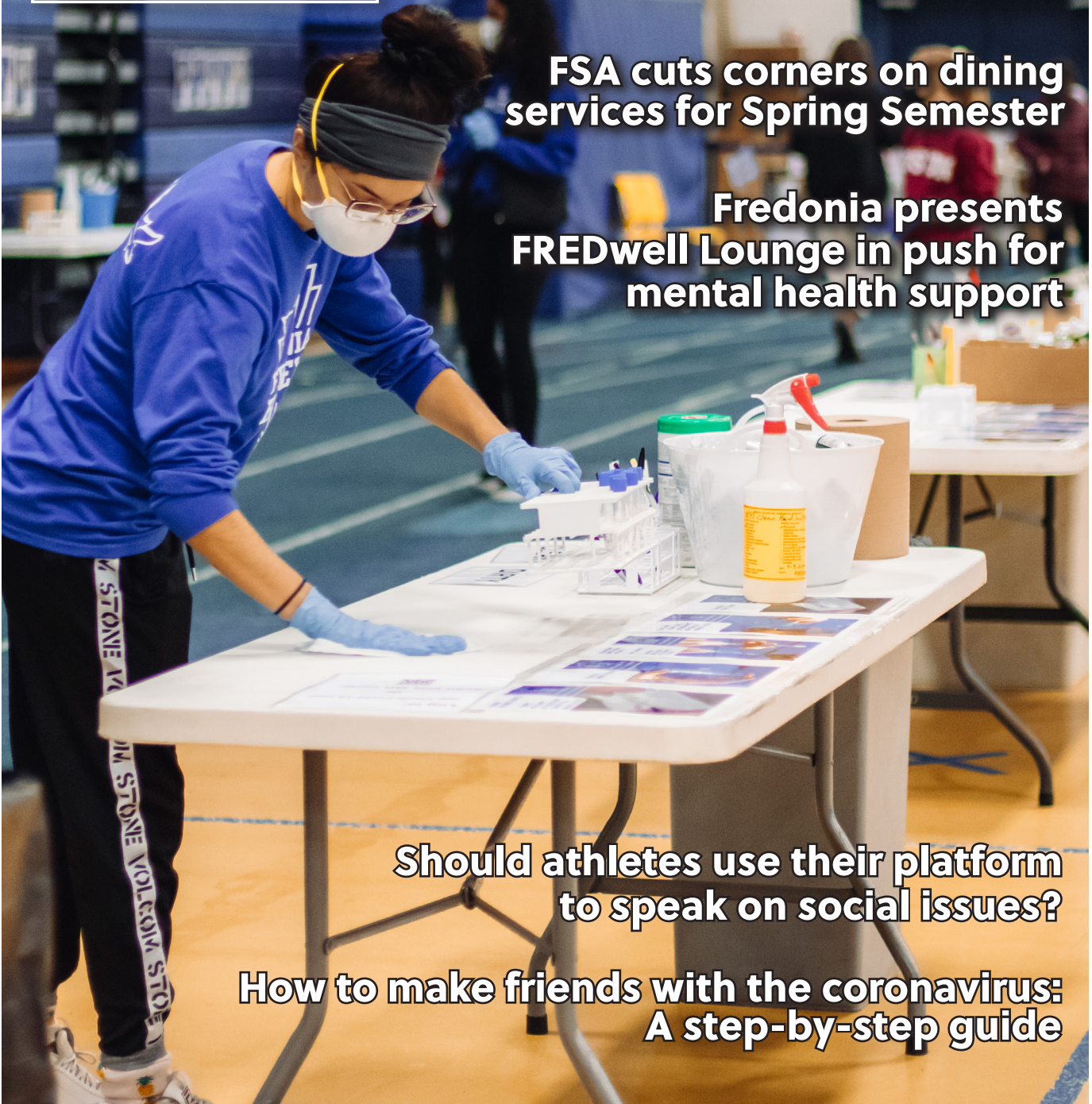
SUNY FREDONIA'S
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER

FSA cuts corners on dining services for Spring Semester

Fredonia presents FREDwell Lounge in push for mental health support

Should athletes use their platform to speak on social issues?

**How to make friends with the coronavirus:
A step-by-step guide**



THE LEADER

S206 Williams Center
Fredonia, NY 14063

www.fredonialeader.org

Email leader@fredonia.edu

Twitter @LeaderFredonia

Instagram @leaderfredonia

Editor in Chief

Jessica Meditz

Managing Editor

James Mead

News Editor

Alisa Oppenheimer

Asst. News Editor

Open

Life & Arts Editor

Alyssa Bump

Asst. Life & Arts Editor

Open

Sports Editor

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Asst. Sports Editor

Open

Scallion Editor

Matthew Baum

Asst. Scallion Editor

Open

Web Editor

Ryan Dunning

Asst. Web Editor

Open

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Open

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Open

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Copy Editor

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(Cover) COVID Testing. Photograph by Derek Raymond.

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FSA cuts corners on dining services for Spring Semester

HOPE WINTER

Special to The Leader

Feeling hungry when you get out of class? Then you had better get to the dining halls before they close.

This semester at Fredonia, dining options have become scarce and if you don't plan out your meal times, you might have to go hungry.

Due to the pandemic, the Faculty Student Association decided to make cutbacks to the dining services offered around campus.

These cutbacks are solely placed to offset the projected \$1.5 million budget deficit they will face at the end of this semester.

"As of right now, we have lost about \$600,000 for the Fall Semester and we're probably going to lose about \$400,000 for the Spring Semester," FSA's executive director, Darin Schulz said.

"Most students are not coming to campus," he continued, "and if they are coming to campus, it's maybe one or two days a week and they are not here all day like how they would be in a normal semester."

In response to the decline in commuter use of the dining facilities, FSA has decided to close almost all cafes around campus and shorten dining hall hours.

"We tried to minimize the impact on the student and get the most efficient delivery of services that we can obtain," said Schulz.

Limiting dining hall hours may seem minimal; however, these minor cutbacks are rippling into bigger problems for students and faculty on campus.

Due to most cafes closing, quick dining services such as Starbucks and Tim Hortons are seeing more of an increased crowd during the day.

"After a certain point in the day, usually around noon, there is a nearly constant line to the stairs up to Cranston.

Students just have fewer options now," said Starbucks employee and Fredonia senior, Emily Sando.

"It can make Starbucks feel a little hectic, and I think my coworkers and I handle it well."

Starbucks employees were trained with newly-added safety restrictions and sanitization methods to keep these increased crowds safer.

For other campus food workers, the changes to the work day are not as easy on them.

"I went from working four days to five, and I'm not really getting any more money and I lost my lunch break," said Janice Tubbus, a Willy C's employee.

She has worked for FSA for almost 20 years.

"I remember back when I first started, we were open until midnight and then it became 11. I don't think it's fair to the students. I think the students prefer it to be open later."

Around 1,500 to 1,550 students still live on campus and use these dining services daily.

Schulz encourages students to utilize the services while they're open and to retrieve their late meals and store them

in their rooms for later.

Kailyn Reynolds, a sophomore and resident of McGinnies Hall practices planning her meals ahead.

"I have had to go to the Convenience Store to pick up pre-packaged meals to eat later on that specific day because I knew that after getting out of my long day, I would not want to eat Willy's again and again, almost every night," she said.

"I wish that the FSA hours would go back to normal or at least stay open a little later. It feels a bit strange when there is nothing open past 7 p.m. besides Willy's."

These changes are projected to save FSA roughly \$200,000 more than last semester, and FSA also received the Paycheck Protection Loan through the Cares Act.

This loan will help reimburse the loan the nonprofit took out to pay their employees.

Despite the changes of food availability on campus, meal plan prices have remained the same. However, they are projected to be raised at least \$50 or more next semester to help the budget for next year.



Closed gates of TeaRex cafe. Photograph by Jules Hoempting.

Fredonia's efforts to **prevent** and respond to **sexual violence**

CHLOE KOWALYK

Staff Writer

If you've been checking your email, you may have noticed an email from SUNY with the subject: "Take the Campus Climate Survey, receive a \$100 gift card."

No, this isn't a scam from some sketchy website that just wants your mother's maiden name and the three digits on the back of your credit card.

Actually, the Campus Climate Survey is a brief set of questions that is used to gather information about student and faculty experiences with both sexual and interpersonal violence and their knowledge of campus policies and resources.



Photograph by Sara Weaver.

The survey is from SUNY, and all SUNY campuses are required to complete the survey.

Dr. Saundra Liggins, the Interim Chief Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator at SUNY Fredonia, said that SUNY wants to know "how responsive each of the SUNY campuses are to instances of sexual assault [and] harassment."

SUNY then uses the data to help improve the campus community's aware-

ness of resources for sexual violence.

The survey is sent out every two years and is part of a state and SUNY policy that requires colleges to share any and all available resources regarding sexual violence.

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits sexual discrimination in any activities that receive federal funding. This discrimination also includes sexual harassment, rape and sexual assault.

However, SUNY Fredonia doesn't stop there in their efforts to keep students safe.

Liggins said that RAs must go through diversity training, which partly

entails how to help a student who comes to an RA with issues of sexual violence.

As the Title IX Coordinator, Liggins talks to resident assistants, residence directors and the student association about this process and how it fits into student conduct.

"It's really just about getting information out about what students can do if they've experienced any type of sexual violence," she said.

If a student has any issues regarding

sexual violence, they should visit SUNY Fredonia's website to access a list of services and contact information for help.

Some of these resources include but are not limited to: University Police, Dr. Saundra Liggins, the Student Health Center, Brooks Memorial Hospital, the Counseling Center and the Anew Center.

According to Liggins, the rise in social media has changed what sexual harassment looks like.

"Now, harassment can occur over Twitter or Facebook. I also think that social media has really changed the way that people communicate it," she said.

With social media, students can quickly post updates or message their friends.

"Frequently, lots of people will know about something that's happened even before someone comes to the Diversity Office for an investigation," said Liggins.

She explains that social media can make things very challenging.

"Certainly people want privacy, but [they] also want to tell [their] friends for support, but that can get out of hand really quickly."

Overall, Liggins says that the campus' goal regarding the combating of sexual violence encompasses two factors.

"[Fredonia] hopes to reduce the number of incidences of sexual harassment and sexual assault, and to make sure that we have a clear and fair process for both the alleged victim and for the alleged perpetrator so that the process is fair and clear to everyone."

Students who fill out the Campus Climate Survey will be entered in a drawing to win one of 150 Amazon gift cards. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete, and students can skip questions or stop responding at any point.

If you or someone you know has experienced sexual violence, please contact one of the above resources or visit SUNY Fredonia's website for further guidance.

Students react to **Donald Trump's** **impeachment** acquittal



"Donald Trump" by Gage Skidmore is licensed with CC BY-SA 2.0.

TANNER TRUAX

Special to The Leader

Donald Trump handed over the constitutional reins to Joe Biden in January, effectively ending one of the most controversial presidential elections in American history.

He spent weeks after election night claiming his presidential win was illegally stolen from him, even after several investigations into the case fell short of actually finding evidence to support such claims.

This situation came to a head at an unprecedented, historical scale when thousands of riled up supporters of the former president stormed the Capitol Building in an attempt to halt the process of confirming Biden as president-elect.

Five protestors and one police officer died in what would be only the second time Congress was attacked in such a manner, the first being by the British in 1814.

Trump took very little action to stop his followers from continuing their attack on the Capitol, taking hours to publicly respond to the situation by telling his followers to halt their destructive actions.

Congress made history after impeaching Trump for the second time in his presidential career, this time based on his past rhetoric inciting outrage across his supporters, causing the riot and his lack of action to stop the insurrection after it started.

He is the only one of three presidents to face impeachment and the only one thus far in our nation's history to be

impeached twice.

Although impeached twice, Trump managed to be acquitted, meaning he was found not guilty of the impeachment charges brought against him, both in 2018 regarding the Russian influence over the 2016 election and this year involving his role in the Capitol riots.

Since Congress failed to find him guilty of any charges, he will still enjoy the benefits any one-term former president can, including running for president again in 2024 if he wishes to.

"I think he should have been found guilty," said Ben Santos, senior music education major.

"[Whether or not to convict] came down to the definition of incitement. The fact it came down to such nit-picking should tell us something as a nation."

"He definitely played a role in inciting the riots that happened in the Capitol. He is not innocent of that," said senior, Nick Couzins.

Couzins expressed his sorrow over the bloodshed that day: "Since there were lives lost, I think it was a good thing he was at least brought up to trial. Though it is unfortunate he was not convicted."

Former president Trump and his presidency have provided hope for his following and despair for his opponents.

One thing is for certain, however, whether friend or foe, his four years in office provided many Fredonia's students their first taste of what it's like to live through what will someday be taught in history classes as a pivotal point in our nation's history.

SUNY Fredonia becomes host-site for COVID-19 vaccinations

TANNER TRUAX - Special to The Leader
JAMES MEAD - Managing Editor

COVID-19 has affected this nation for over a year now.

One full year of hardships for those who lost their livelihoods, heartaches for the families who lost loved ones and anxiety for many Americans wondering when this nightmare might end.

In December, as the year that brought us this disease came to a close, the gleaming light at the end of the “COVID tunnel” could finally be seen in the form of a vaccine.

That light is now closer for eligible residents of Chautauqua County, as the COVID-19 vaccine is coming to SUNY Fredonia.

With more people becoming eligible for the vaccine, SUNY Fredonia applied to become a closed COVID-19 vaccination site.

While undergoing the application process for a closed-site, Chautauqua County approached the campus on the possibility of becoming an open mass vaccination site.

On Tuesday, Feb. 24, Marketing and Communications sent a news release to the campus-community making the possibility a reality. In connection with the Chautauqua County Department of Health, Fredonia will host a mass vaccination site.

The site will be hosted in the Ice Arena complex at Steele Hall — not far from where weekly surveillance testing takes place.

Notably, however, while surveillance testing is performed on the campus’ own behalf for students, faculty and staff, the vaccination site will be hosted on behalf of all of Chautauqua County.

This means that vaccinations will be performed according to the prioritization established by the New York State Department of Health — such as first-responders, in-person college faculty and New Yorkers age 16 and up with specific underlying health conditions.

Becoming a host site should not be confused with being a closed vaccination site, which would mean the vaccines

would strictly be for the benefit of the campus-community including students, faculty and staff.

“Students, faculty and staff, rather than going somewhere else to take the vaccine, should be able to take it here [on campus],” said SUNY Fredonia president, Dr. Stephen Kolison.

In becoming an open site, SUNY Fredonia joins the ranks of several other SUNY schools that are already such vaccination sites including the University at Buffalo, SUNY Albany and SUNY Binghamton.

The site will be under the control of the Chautauqua County Health Department, so while SUNY Fredonia will host it, the county will schedule appointments and administer vaccinations.

“SUNY Fredonia is committed to being good partners with our surrounding community,” said Kolison.

“...In these unprecedented times, collaboration is key to moving us beyond this terrible pandemic.”

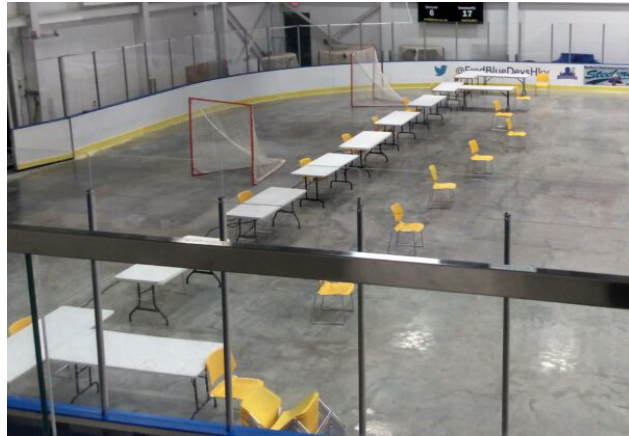
In the coming weeks, Facilities Services and the Health Center will coordinate with the county to ensure that the site meets all health requirements.

A key responsibility held by the university will be to ensure that the site is made accessible and available to all who need it.

On this front, Fredonia’s Marketing and Communications director, Jeff Woodard, said, “Signage will be posted on campus and ramps will be installed to ensure handicap accessibility.”

When the site is ready to begin distributing vaccines, the Chautauqua County Department of Health will announce the dates and times of vaccinations.

“As vaccine supply increases, sites like the SUNY Fredonia campus with large, open venues and ample parking will be necessary to accommodate the number



Ice Arena Complex at Steele Hall. Photograph by James Mead.

of people we anticipate needing to vaccinate,” said Chautauqua County Public Health Director, Christine Schuyler.

“We are grateful for the partnership and support of SUNY Fredonia in accomplishing this monumental task.”

Hypothetically, according to Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Cedric Howard, if the campus community is able to reach full vaccination, there could be a trend back toward pre-COVID normalcy.

“It is the administration’s desire to return to normal operation as soon as possible, including in-person classes for Fall 2021. Currently, we are not planning to adjust campus COVID protocols prior to significant vaccine distribution to members of the campus-community,” said Howard.

With the mere existence of a vaccination site, SUNY Fredonia will make an impactful difference as they will likely join the ranks of noble institutions offering time and space to help fight the worst public health crisis this world has seen in over a century.

Information regarding vaccination clinics is shared, and will continue to be updated, on the Chautauqua County Health Department web page.

Fredonia Nurturing Innovation Campaign raises over \$24 million



Photo courtesy of nurture.fredonia.edu.

MADISON BLASZ

Special to The Leader

Planning for the Nurturing Innovation Campaign started in 2014. Seven years — and \$24 million later — it is complete.

At SUNY Fredonia, the Nurturing Innovation campaign was created to help raise funds to keep the university affordable while exploring how to further educate students.

According to the Nurturing Innovation campaign mission, “Fredonia educates, challenges and inspires students to become skilled, connected, creative and responsible global citizens and professionals. The university enriches the world through scholarship, artistic expression, community engagement and entrepreneurship.”

SUNY Fredonia started campaign fundraising in 2014, going public with a \$20 million goal in 2017.

Betty Gossett, the executive director of the Fredonia College Foundation and the interim vice president of University Advancement, said, “After a great deal of input, we identified five forward-looking priorities: student access (scholarships), experiential learning, learning spaces, exceptional faculty and unrestricted gifts.”

“When we launched, we knew this would be our most ambitious, comprehensive campaign in Fredonia’s history. We experienced an amazing outpouring of support throughout the campaign,” Gossett said.

The Nurturing Innovation campaign was a success, raising over \$24.5 million, exceeding its goal by more than 20 percent.

Gossett said she attributes this outcome to the dedication of alumni, friends of the university, local businesses, organizations and an enthusiastic and committed team, all who want to see SUNY Fredonia and its students thrive.

This campaign received 52,850 individual gifts to help SUNY Fredonia.

According to The Statement, a university publication, “21,451 individual gifts were made by 3,628 alumni and 21,264 individual gifts were made by 385 faculty and staff.”

So how is the money handled and disseminated?

Gossett said that some funds go directly to the intended purpose, while other funds are endowed and allowed to grow so they’re available in the future. That is how many scholarships are funded.

“Those funds are generally restricted for a designated purpose and the foundation allocates spending from those funds each year,” said Gossett.

“In addition, many donors have invested in Fredonia by designating the campus in their estate plans. These gifts benefit our university far into the future.”

There are many students who have received scholarships through campaigns like this.

Josh Velasco, a third-year biochemistry major with a leadership studies minor, has received multiple scholarships,

including the SUNY Fredonia Keeper of the Dream Scholarship.

Velasco said, “The KOD scholarship program emphasizes student leadership, scholarship, a commitment to multiculturalism and embodying the Fredonia spirit on campus. It was a rigorous process and I was fortunately picked as one of the three recipients for the incoming class of 2022.”

Velasco has also received other scholarships, including the Steele Family Merit Scholarship in Science, the Dean’s Scholar Award, the James D. Burdick Memorial Physics Scholarship and the Subra Pendyala Physics Faculty Award.

Ecstatic and overjoyed, Velasco said, “All of these scholarships have significantly aided me financially and I truly appreciate that.”

The Keeper of The Dream Scholarship program helped Velasco connect with a network of scholars.

He said, “I get to form genuine friendships with opportunities to network within the Fredonia community and be surrounded with like-minded scholars despite being in different majors.”

Gossett made it clear that students are the key to telling the Fredonia story.

“Our donors love to hear from students,” she said.

“Those connections are what keep alumni engaged and continuing to support Fredonia with their resources. We would love to find more ways to include students in connecting with donors and helping us with our fundraising efforts. Everyone’s ideas are welcome.”

This campaign has helped Fredonia and its students in a variety of ways.

If you are fortunate to have benefited from a scholarship, it’s important to thank the benefactor who made it possible, who love to hear how their help made a difference.

There are so many students who came before us that care about us as students, our experience and our success.

“We see that in our everyday work and the success of this campaign was proof of that,” said Gossett.

Life & Arts

Fredonia presents **FREDwell Lounge** in recent push for mental health support

ALYSSA BUMP
Life & Arts Editor

After a year of isolation, many students are looking for face-to-face interaction whenever possible.

Luckily, the new FREDwell Lounge is now open to all students.

The lounge is located on the second floor of the Williams Center in room S221.

In an email sent to all registered students from Enrollment & Student Services, the lounge is described as “a safe space to build peer-led community wellness activities and as a space to provide some extra support for students to decompress and connect with others.”

Residence Life, Campus Life, the Counseling Center and Student Association president Israel Ortiz all teamed up to help create it.

Miranda Nellis, counselor in residence, also credited others for making the FREDwell Lounge possible.

She said, “We were also able to collaborate with the First Year Residential Experience team headed by Kevin Hahn... and the lounge is currently being staffed during the day by Fredonia Social Work interns. Additionally, Dr. McFall and Dr. Thibodeau are collaborating with us to bring in the Student Life clubs and additional programming and groups that will be beneficial for students.”

During the grand opening on Feb. 10, goodie bags were given out as well as reusable bags and water bottles, stickers, masks, hand sanitizer and more.

About 75 students and 10 faculty members stopped by to check out the lounge, which is accessible to students every day, from the time the Williams Center opens until it closes.



Photograph by Jules Hoepting.

Student interns will also be there for several hours five days a week to support students who visit.

The lounge is meant to give students a place where they can find the resources they need.

Information and flyers for things such as support groups, coping skills and even local dentist offices are available in the lounge.

Bri Lever, a University at Buffalo MSW intern for ResLife, said, “The overall goal is support — where peers can support peers.”

The interns are around the same age as most students, and they encourage students to come to the lounge to relax, hang out or vent about their day.

“We aren’t all in the same boat, but we are all in the same storm,” said Lever.

Nellis said, “My biggest hope for the

lounge is that it will give students a place to connect with peers and the campus, which is increasingly difficult during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

There are a number of peer-led groups that will meet in the lounge and are all centered around wellness, from self-love to LGBTQ+ groups.

Regarding COVID-19 precautions, Nellis said, “The lounge will follow all state and local guidelines for maintaining safety during COVID-19. This includes a mask requirement, reduced capacity, as well as having wipes and other cleaning supplies available for students to wipe down supplies and hand sanitizer.”

If you are interested in any upcoming activities and events happening in the FREDwell lounge, check out <https://fredconnect.fredonia.edu/>.

Convocation Committee brings Emily Calandrelli to Fredonia

ANNA GAGLIANO

Copy Editor

Last Tuesday, Fredonia learned about the need for a little humanity within the sciences.

Emily Calandrelli gave the speech, “Empathetic Science Communication in an Increasingly Polarized World,” as part of the 2020-2021 Fredonia Convocation.

The theme for this year’s convocation is “Pondering the Future: Empathy as a Way Forward.”

Brad Brown, a senior biochemistry major and winner of the Lanford Prize introduced Calandrelli, while maintaining that this speech was for everyone because “everyone is a science person.”

Calandrelli is an alumna of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who has made a name for herself as a modern woman in STEM.

She has been a correspondent for shows such as “Bill Nye Saves the World” and is an executive producer and host of “Xploration Outer Space” on FOX. She also executive produces and hosts her own Emmy-nominated Netflix series, “Emily’s Wonder Lab,” which she filmed while nine-months pregnant before the pandemic hit.

Calandrelli also authors her own series of children’s books known as the “Ada Lace Adventures,” which she describes as a “nerdier version of Nancy Drew.” The third installment of the series was recently launched into space to be read on the International Space Station as a part of NASA’s Story Time from Space program.

As she developed in her STEM career, Calandrelli has noticed a need for more empathy in the way that we discuss scientific issues, saying that at the simplest level, empathetic science communication can be achieved by “[understanding] that humans are not computers.”

She compared people’s worldviews to houses, things that we build up based on our morals, values and what we believe to be true. These houses can be shaken, though.



Emily Calandrelli.

“When a new idea... comes along that threatens to renovate that house, by breaking down or changing one of those pillars, our brain acts like a body-guard,” Calandrelli said.

The brain’s response to house-shaking information is to immediately disregard it, which is a psychological reaction known as the backfire effect.

“It means when your deepest convictions are challenged by contradictory evidence, oftentimes your original beliefs get stronger,” Calandrelli explained.

This doubling-down on original beliefs can result in a person becoming alienated from further education and allows those with opposing beliefs to “falsely believe that throwing facts at the situation will make it better.”

“The trick,” Calandrelli said, “is to deliver those facts and evidence in better ways... the key to doing that is through empathetic science communication.”

Calandrelli used a real example from her personal experience to demonstrate this way of communication.

As a lover of science, Calandrelli researched why so many residents of her home state of West Virginia do not believe in climate change.

She explained that the view on coal as

a fuel in WV is vastly different than it is in other places. WV is one of America’s top mine-producing states with coal reserves. From a young age, the people of WV are taught that coal is a “god-given” resource that they should feel “so lucky” to have in their home.

A coal industry-founded organization called Friends of Coal works to ensure the longevity of coal in WV.

“[They] do this in two strategic ways. First, they recruit West Virginia cultural icons as spokesmen for them,” Calandrelli said.

Some of the most important people Friends of Coal recruits are head coaches of popular college football teams. For many years, there was even a sponsored Friends of Coal Bowl where West Virginia University and Marshall University would play each other.

Calandrelli explained that this is troubling because if the head coaches of praised and beloved football teams are a “Friend of Coal,” that is going to resonate with many West Virginians.

It is the second strategy employed by Friends of Coal, though, that is especially impactful.

Continued from previous page.

“Tens of thousands of dollars worth of grants have been given to teachers who have been willing to teach coal lessons designed by the coal industry, and you can imagine how ‘scientific’ and ‘unbiased’ those coal lessons are,” Calandrelli said.

This strategy becomes more villainous-sounding when she goes on to explain how underpaid West Virginia teachers are, so much so that they were some of the first teachers in the country to strike over their salaries.

After researching all of this, Calandrelli used empathetic science communication to open up a dialogue with her fellow West Virginians about the risks of coal and the dangers of climate change.

She did this using one of the most important factors of empathetic science communication: “We can bait the hook to sink the fish.”

“It means to focus on the interests of your audience. Talk about what they care about, not what you think they should care about,” Calandrelli continued.

In the process of doing this, Calandrelli said that it’s important to remember that you might not always be the right messenger to deliver certain information. You might have to seek out public figures whose general values align more with your audience’s, and they could succeed more at educating them than you could have.

Calandrelli’s overall goal of her speech was to show when engaging in science communication, it is vital that we “be

kind, be empathetic and listen to the person you are trying to convince.”

We must ask ourselves if we want to argue or if we want to educate, and answering this will guide our conversations toward either more disparity or a future where we will understand each other a little better.

To learn more from Calandrelli, you can stream “Emily’s Wonder Lab” on Netflix or follow her on social media under @TheSpaceGal.



Emily Calandrelli.

Dr. Yohuru Williams presents: Black Lives Matter movement in historical context

CHLOE KOWALYK

Staff Writer

Approximately 80 years ago, thousands of Black Americans began the organized effort to gain equal rights under the law.

No more than a decade later, the civil rights movement began after Rosa Parks boycotted public transportation.

Today, millions of Americans have joined the Black Lives Matter movement, protesting against police brutality, racially-motivated violence and systemic racism.

The many similarities between the movements was the subject of Dr. Yohuru Williams’ presentation.

Williams is a distinguished university chair, professor of history and the founding director of the University of St. Thomas’ Racial Justice Initiative.

He is also an author, editor and has appeared on several local and national TV and radio programs.

Williams’ discussion, titled “Simply Because People Refuse to See Me: The Black Lives Matter Movement in

Historical Context,” was presented by the Intercultural Center and SUNY Fredonia’s Black Student Union.

Williams began his presentation by saying that he hopes to “alter the way that we’re thinking about our contemporary moment and how we frame this in the long struggle of racial inequality.”

He explained to attendees that the fight for racial equality in the civil rights movement never really ended, as shown through the Black Lives Matter movement and killing of George Floyd.

Hoping to link the two movements in his presentation, Williams describes what he calls, “‘there goes my everything’ moments.”

These moments include “all lives matter” and “blue lives matter” protests and the comparison of the events on Jan. 6 at the Capitol to the Black Lives Matter protests in the summer of 2020.



Photograph by Sara Weaver.

These events set back the efforts of the Black Lives Matter movement, which for many, was their “everything.”

Williams said that the similar symbols of political divide and racial terror are present at both lynchings and the events at the Capitol, such as confederate flags and nooses.

He said that through these symbols and the police violence that happened during the civil rights movement, “we can see the roots of Black Lives Matter” in the history of our country.



Dr. Yohuru Williams

The main point that Williams drives home is that we can frame the Black Lives Matter movement in the context of the civil rights movement.

A section of the title of his presentation, “Simply because people refuse to see me,” is a quote from Black writer Ralph Ellison’s award-winning book, “The Invisible Man.”

Williams incorporated the words of many Black Americans, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Ida B. Wells, Melba Patillo Beals, Jackie

Robinson and Shirley Chisholm to enhance his presentation.

The presentation then shifted to the topics of education and responsibility.

Williams told attendees about one of Beals’ diary entries, where she asks if what was happening in Little Rock was truly this big of a deal, then why wasn’t anyone telling the white students of Central High to behave themselves? Williams explained that this boils down to education.

Quoting Marshall, he recited, “[Black

children] have been struggling with democracy long enough,” and therefore they are already very experienced and knowledgeable about it.”

Marshall worried more about the white children who did not have this same experience and were taught that the way democracy works is to break the law and attack others.

Williams stressed to the attendees that it is so important for students to learn compassion and view history from different perspectives.

Later in his presentation, Williams referenced the death of Jimmie Lee Jackson, who was murdered by an Alabama state trooper. He asked attendees who was truly responsible for Jackson’s death.

Paraphrasing King, he said that it was the lack of action of the federal government, white Americans who were too indifferent to make change and the cowardice of Black Americans who were too timid to stand up and fight that were responsible for his death.

Here, Williams shows us yet another direct link between the civil rights movement and the Black Lives Matter movement.

The similarity of Jackson’s death and today’s police brutality isn’t just racial violence, but also the need for individuals to stand up for what they believe in.

Near the end of his presentation, he reflected on the many ways Americans have tried to take their country back. “Wounds produce narratives,” Williams said, “people talk about taking our country back.”

He remembered Emmett Till’s mother and how she had an open casket funeral for her son, and how, in his words, “the echoes of the past are powerful.”

He thinks about LeBron James and the changes he has advocated for. Both Till and James are working to take the country back.

Those “wounds” in both the past and present are creating narratives that will inspire all Americans to take charge of their country.

“I think Black Lives Matter has been incredibly effective in pushing the movement to the next level,” Williams said.

With that, he asks, “whether we can actually push our democracy in this moment to live up to the promise of what it is we want to project, than what we haven’t quite accomplished.”

“**Dos Mundos**” photography exhibit travels to Marion Art Gallery

CHLOE KOWALYK
Staff Writer

The lives of many have slipped through the cracks of the American dream, living only in the shadow of our “great” nation. Their stories are being swallowed up by hardship and inequity.

However, through photojournalism and the work of talented photographers, Americans can gain direct insight into the worlds of those around them.

The Marion Art Gallery on SUNY Fredonia’s campus is hosting the “Dos Mundos” photography exhibit until Feb. 28.

“Dos Mundos,” translated from Spanish, means “two worlds.” As the name implies, the photography in the exhibit shows the separation between the world of minority and nonminority groups.

Images of immigrants, low-income communities and racial and/or gender minorities are displayed on the gallery walls, which feature the work of 12 different artists.

The cover image for the event shows two immigrant women, a mother and a daughter, taking residence in a church to avoid being forcibly removed from the country and their families.

The artist, Cinthya Santos-Briones, said that she investigates “how congressional responses to the migration crisis have redefined concepts such as sanctuary, social justice and refuge.”

Many families who have fled hardship from their native countries still face hardship here in America. With the combination of constant fear of being deported, the possibility of being separated from their families and having

to be bound to the church by an ankle monitor, immigrants’ lives are constantly at risk.

This is the central focus of Santos-Briones’ project “Living in Sanctuary.”

Another artist, Daesha Harris, takes a look into the past. Harris found herself inspired by folklore and slave narratives that involve the crossing of water.

In her photographs, she uses water as a symbol to represent the ongoing struggle for freedom. “My work combines elements from shared cultural narratives with personal moments from my childhood and familiar traditions connected to the landscape,” she said.

Harris’ photography is taken underwater, showing the legs of a Black person as they navigate through the water.

In an audio recording, Harris said that many slaves were shot in their attempts to flee to freedom.

This brought the exhibition coordinator, Hyla Stellhorn, to tears.

“When she said that about the people and where their bodies were I started crying,” Stellhorn said.

The “Dos Mundos” exhibit emphasizes emotion. With each photograph, the viewer is transported to a different part of the world from a different perspective of unique people, whether in Cuba or New York City.

Each of the 12 artists’ work tells a story that isn’t typically represented in media or art.

Besides Santos-Briones and Harris, the other artists featured include Damarys Alvarez, Laylah Amatullah

Barrayn, Tau Battice, Yu-Chen Chiu, Anthony Hamboussi, Erika Morillo, Danny Ramon Peralta, Antonio Pulgarin, Roger Richardson and Aaron Turner.

The exhibit is presented by En Foco, a non-profit organization that supports the photography of African, Asian, Latino, Native American and Pacific Islander artists.

“Dos Mundos” is a travelling exhibit that will visit other SUNY venues. With the intense emotion and overall importance of the art, one would truly be missing out if they did not go see the exhibit.

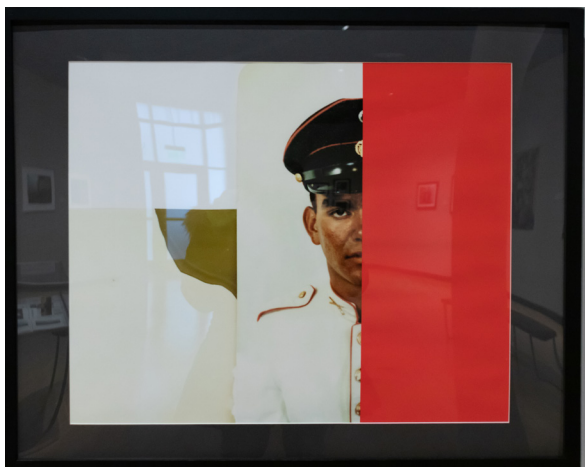
The exhibit also features QR codes for each artist next to their pieces that the viewer can scan to hear a quick audio recording of the artist describing their projects.

The Marion Art Gallery is open Tuesday-Thursday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and is closed on Mondays.

The exhibition is free and open to the public.

To schedule a tour of “Dos Mundos,” contact Barbara Racker, the director of Marion Art Gallery, at (716) 673-4897 or at barbara.racker@fredonia.edu

A limited amount of free exhibition catalogues will be available as well as a Zoom meeting with Morillo on Feb. 18.



"Dos Mundos" photography exhibit.
Photographs of photographs by Derek Raymond.

SPORTS

What Bills fans want this offseason



Graphic by Olivia Connor.

ANTHONY GETTINO

Sports Editor

This past season, the Buffalo Bills exceeded all expectations and marched to the AFC Championship Game before being eliminated by the Kansas City Chiefs.

Having their league's second best record, there weren't too many weaknesses on the roster.

With free agency and the 2021 draft approaching soon, there are some places on the roster that fans would like to see upgraded in order to make that last jump in skill and win a Super Bowl.

Since the Bills play just under an hour away from SUNY Fredonia's campus, you can find many passionate fans that are willing to talk all day about what they think this team needs to do. And for the most part, they all say the same things.

The two most popular positions of need according to fans were the offensive line and running back room.

The offensive line is an ongoing issue for the team, although this past year was

a marked improvement over the years prior.

This need to bolster the line coincides with the need for a running back, as the past few seasons have seen the run game become less effective year in and out.

Luc Williams hopes for a strong running back with the team's first round pick, as he said, "The team's run game has been lacking for the last few seasons and with such a late pick, there may not be a better player of need at that position."

On the defensive side of the ball, resigning Matt Milano should be the top priority. Having Milano back in the lineup consistently will help the team step up run coverage, which was another weakness.

Fans are split on adding the recently released J.J. Watt.

On one hand, Watt is a three-time defensive player of the year and is still a very effective pass rusher. On the other hand, he will command a significant

amount of cash that could go into either the more significant needs of the roster or into the home grown talent the team invested draft picks into.

One position that every fan agreed didn't need to be tampered with was the receiving core.

With their top four receivers set to return this season and the effectiveness Josh Allen had in the passing game, there's no need to make any changes that could mess with the chemistry.

A new backup quarterback should also be on the mind of Brandon Beane and the Buffalo front office.

With Josh Allen being a mobile quarterback, he's bound to take hits — which could lead to injury.

Self-proclaimed super fan, Griffin Dombroske said, "Current backup Matt Barkley isn't a sufficient quarterback to take the reins of a championship caliber football team in the event Allen misses any time," as a last note of changes necessary to the roster.

After a hectic year, track is back

SOBAN FAISAL

Special to The Leader

It has been a year hiatus for track student athletes at Fredonia.

Senior and captain, Ivan Torres may have been the most excited when he realized he would be able to participate in the sport he loves. He was at the gym and jumped up, trying to hold back a scream of joy.

Going into his last semester, he plans on putting it all on the line to help his team compete at the highest level. Even though this is his final semester at Fredonia, he has set aside going to the bars to keep his teammates and season safe.

Torres is the perfect definition of leading by example.

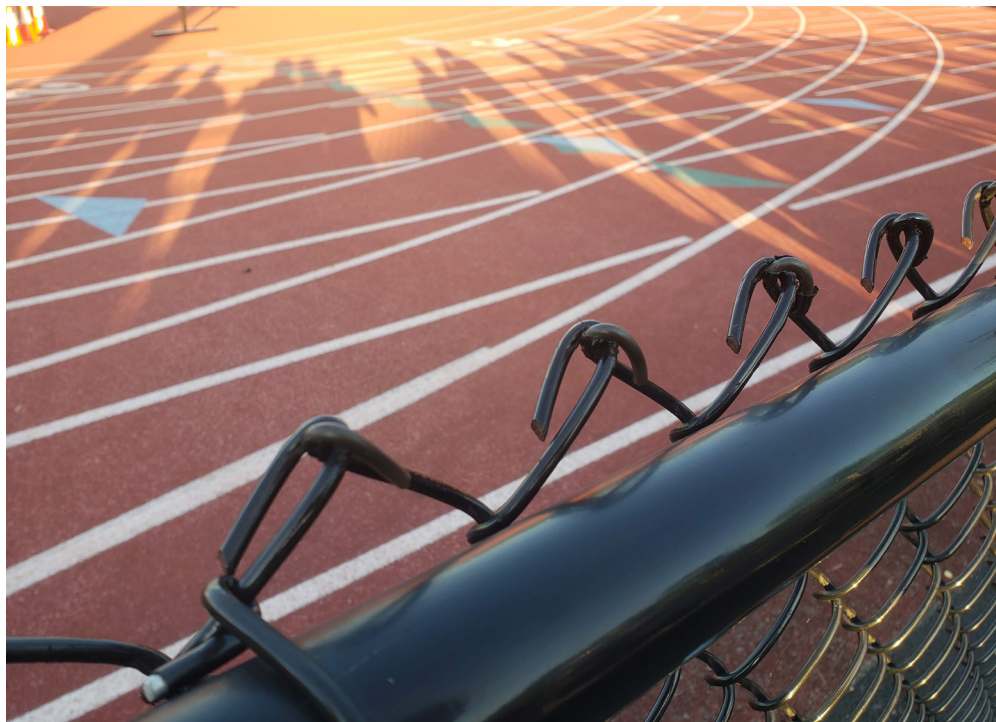
Junior jumper, Maddie Sohl has missed a whole year. Sohl is graduating this coming fall and pursuing her career by staying in Fredonia for her master's degree.

Thankfully, she plans on using the available fifth-year option to continue the sport she loves.

Athletes such as Torres and Sohl have been consistently hitting the gym to stay in shape.

Promising freshman, Jason Winston takes a slightly different route as he continues to work with his high school coach saying, "He's been basically in contact with me ever since I came up here just to make sure that I've been staying right."

Winston also knows that he has a whole new group of teammates ready to go to work and help, saying, "...I [have] my team to support me at the same



Photograph by Jules Hoepting.

time. It feels good to have that support system around you so it gives you inspiration to actually put in the work."

Coach Thomas Wilson has started his players with conditioning drills. He is trying to start them off slow to cause minimal injuries for those who have not been training over the offseason.

During this crazy time with a dangerous disease going around, Wilson has made the necessary calls to ensure his team and players are safe.

The most significant step Wilson has taken is having the players practice in smaller groups of 11 called "pods." Not only that, but before any players may enter the building for practice, they have

to go through a symptom tracker.

If you are thinking some athletes may infect others by going to the local bars, have no fear. If they do, they will have to remove themselves from practice until they get a negative COVID test.

As the team's only coach, Wilson sometimes runs four practices a day to get these student athletes up to speed.

Practices last between 60 to 70 minutes. After each pod finishes with practice, all equipment is cleaned with an electrostatic spray to ensure everyone is safe.

Because of all this, the track team is poised to have a terrific season.

Houston, we have a problem

IVAN TORRES

Special to The Leader

In the NFL, there are many teams that struggle to find their identity.

Out of all 32 teams, no team struggles more with identity than the Houston Texans.

Before 2020, the Texans made the playoffs back to back in the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

This team showed to be very promising with a young star quarterback, Deshaun Watson, arguably the best receiver in the league, Deandre Hopkins and a great defensive end J.J. Watt.

However, promising turned into failure in just one season.

Fans, players and front office heads were turned when the Houston Texans posted a record of 4 wins and 12 losses.

All we can ask ourselves is “What happened?”

First off, before the 2020 season, the Texans’ star receiver, DeAndre Hopkins was traded to the Cardinals for running back David Johnson and a second and fourth round pick.

According to the Texans’ head coach, Bill O’ Brien said, “DeAndre Hopkins was a great football player here. He made so many plays for us. We love DeAndre Hopkins. But he had three years left on his deal and he wanted a raise. And we weren’t going to be able to go in that direction.”

This was the first problem. As a team who are Super Bowl contenders, there’s no reason to trade away the best player on their offense. The best thing to do would be to pay the stars and address needed positions in the draft.

Not only did trading Deandre Hopkins not make sense, but they also traded him for a “bag of chips.”

David Johnson hasn’t been productive since 2016 where he found the endzone 16 times that season. Johnson found the endzone more times in that one season than he had his next four seasons combined (15).

Not only that, but with the draft picks



“Houston Texans” by The Brit_2 is licensed with CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

they received, the Texans had somehow managed not to help their quarterback with offensive lineman.

Overall, the Texans received a washed up running back and picks they failed to put into use at the price of, debatably, the number one receiver in the league.

Not only did they trade DeAndre Hopkins and have a record of 4 and 12, but in this offseason, the team somehow managed to make it worse for themselves.

Since the 2020 season had low hopes for the Texans, they are now forced to start from scratch once again.

How do they do that?

They start by cutting their franchise player and five-time pro bowler defensive end, J.J. Watt.

The Texans ranked 30th last season in defense. Congratulations to them because their defense has a serious shot

of being ranked dead last next season.

Just as things can’t get any worse for the Texans, they do.

Twenty-five-year-old and three-time all pro quarterback, Deshaun Watson, requested to be traded.

According to Sports Illustrated, Watson said that the organization needed “a whole culture shift.”

If Houston goes on to trade Watson, their most marketable player would be Will Fuller, who was suspended at the end of the season for violating the NFL’s performance-enhancing drugs policy.

He is also a pending unrestricted free agent.

With all these moves being made in the offseason, Houston, we have a serious problem.

Should athletes use their platform to speak on social issues?



Lebron James.

JEREMY ERMAN

Special to The Leader

Today, more than ever, athletes are seen as more than just someone who plays a sport.

Half a century ago, athletes starring in movies and speaking on social justice was rare, and in some cases, taboo. Kareem Abdul Jabbar starred in “Airplane” in 1980, albeit in a small role.

In 1968 at the Mexico City Olympics, Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised their fists on the podium as a form of protest against racial injustice.

Moments like these used to only occur once in a blue moon, but that’s no longer the case. Today, many professional athletes have their own apparel brand, charities in their name or other ways to expand themselves beyond the court, field, ring or track.

Lebron James is one of the most outspoken athletes today.

Two years ago, he was involved in a public argument with Laura Ingraham, a FOX News host at the time, who ignorantly told James to “shut up and dribble.”

Now, he is going against another athlete, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, over the same

topic. Both athletes are viewed as some of the greatest in the world.

Lebron James, 36, is arguably the greatest basketball player of all time, with many records in the NBA and a handful of MVPs and three Final Championships to show as well.

Ibrahimovic, 39, is also at the top of his sport’s world, regarded as one of the best soccer strikers of all time. He has won over 30 trophies in his career and scored more than 570 goals.

On Saturday morning, Ibrahimovic told James to “stay out of it” when it comes to politics.

In response, James said, “I will never shut up about things that are wrong. I preach about my people, equality, social injustice, racism and systematic voter suppression.”

However, some have branded James a hypocrite, citing his response to former Houston Rockets general manager Daryl Morey, who tweeted support for the protests occurring in Hong Kong last year.

In response to his remarks, China retaliated by declining to broadcast some games in China, cancelling the Rockets’ coverage and all NBA presea-

son games. Some Chinese companies ended their partnerships with certain NBA stars. James’ response to this was that he claimed that Morey was not “misinformed” about the protests, but instead about what China’s response would be. He also stressed that Morey’s actions could have harmed people both emotionally and spiritually.

Despite this, James has made major positive impacts off the court, including advocating for political reform, speaking out against racism and even opening a school.

His school, the I Promise School, has allowed many students who were previously at risk of not graduating and obtaining an education to now not only just graduate, but to instead succeed and thrive in school.

Meanwhile, Ibrahimovic’s recent remarks would show that he disagrees with that approach.

On Saturday, he said, “I don’t like when people... go and do politics at the same time... Do what you’re good at. Do the category you do. I play football because I’m the best at playing football. I don’t do politics.”

Like James, his hypocrisy was pointed out as well.

Ibrahimovic has previously said that his personal idol is Muhammad Ali, one of the greatest boxers of all time. However, he was more than just that. When speaking of activism in sports, Ali’s name has to be brought up.

Muhammad Ali was a Black Muslim man who rose to prominence in the U.S. during the ‘60s, right around the same time that political figures like Malcolm X, (whom Ali worked with) and Martin Luther King Jr. also became widely known.

Ali declined to be drafted into the military to fight in the Vietnam War on religious grounds, and because of that, he was stripped of his titles and awards.

This was only one of the times that Ali would stand up for what he believed in, but his actions clearly inspired many people, apparently including Ibrahimovic, who could have chosen another non-political athlete as his idol.

OPINION

Using “they” as a singular pronoun is grammatically correct, actually

JULES HOEPTING

Design Editor

Read the following sentence: “The decision is up to them.” In your brain, that sentence probably has the same meaning as this sentence: “The decision is up to a group of people.”

Does that mean “them” is always in reference to a group of people? No. Read this next sentence.

“That is the student’s decision. The choice is up to them.”

The apostrophe is before the “s,” so there is only one student being discussed. That student has not been assigned a gender, so when a pronoun takes the place of the noun, “them” can be used.

But couldn’t I have replaced the noun “student” with “his/her?” Yes, I could have.

My point is — did reading “That is the student’s decision. The choice is up to them,” sound odd to you?

My prediction is it did not.

Does the following sentence sound odd to you?

“What is thy opinion?”

It probably does, because people no longer use “thou,” “thee,” “thine” and “thy” when talking directly to a person. Instead, we use the pronouns “you” and “your.”

But we also use “you” and “your” to address a group of people.

For example, “People of America, I want to be your politician.”

Huh. What do you know? We already use the same pronouns to address both singular and plural forms of people. And it doesn’t sound odd to us, because we can decipher whether the pronoun is being used as singular or plural based on context.

Language and grammar change over time. New words are introduced — think “selfie” and “googling,” which are

both recognized words by the Merriam-Webster dictionary — and existing words change their meaning over time and/or by context. “Calling” someone no longer means visiting someone’s house. Signs that say “don’t drink and drive” are not telling drivers they are forbidden from having a sip of water while operating a vehicle.

Besides, gender is a social construct. How people view other people based on gender assigned at birth changes over time.

Don’t believe me? Google “sexist ‘50s ads.” Feel your eyes widen as you observe what was once deemed acceptable

through the modern societal lens.

And why is gender included in pronouns in the first place? Why does it matter if someone identified as a “he” or a “she” when referring to what they thought? It doesn’t, really.

Notice how I used “they” to refer to a hypothetical singular person in the second sentence of the previous paragraph? No? Case dismissed.



“2016.07.01 Nametags with Pronouns - Avery 5392_nonbranded” by tedehytan is licensed with CC BY-SA 2.0.

Should Fredonia **students** be more careful of what they post on **social media**?

MADISON BLASZ

Special to The Leader

Can what you say on social media get you in trouble with your college?

That was the case for Kimberly Diei, a pharmacy graduate student at the University of Tennessee.

According to The New York Times, the university tried to expel her because some of her social media posts were considered “vulgar,” “crude” and not keeping up with her chosen profession’s practices.

Could something like that happen at SUNY Fredonia?

Maybe.

While Fredonia’s Code of Conduct outlines behavioral expectations for students on campus, they also have expectations of what is posted online.

Fredonia’s Social Media Policy says: “Content should be free of vulgar, racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise objectionable matter, including personal attacks against named individuals. Content that violates university website policy or local, state or federal law will be removed.”

At Fredonia, Director of Student Conduct, Lisa Newell has overseen the university’s judicial system for a little over 13 years.

Newell holds students accountable when they do not meet the standards that the university expects from its students.

“If there is an allegation related to behavior on social media, we have policies related to harassment, cyberbullying, inappropriate use of the campus network and more,” said Newell.

The Computer and Network Usage Policy has a section about the unauthorized use and it says, “Violation of these regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense.”

It depends on the situation, but if it violates the Code of Conduct, the university will investigate it and decide how to move forward.

“It is important to note that if someone reports inappropriate behavior happening online, sharing with us as much information as possible is key,” said Newell.

“We often receive information that lacks details, such as date, time, location, names of those involved.”



Social Media apps. Photograph by Tracey Le Blanc from Pexels.

The First Amendment protects many situations, so when the university gets notified of an issue on social media, the university has to do a thorough investigation before moving forward in any way.

Professor Mike Igoe has taught communication at Fredonia for eight years.

When discussing the First Amendment, Igoe said, “The First Amendment is like a balancing act, since it is not an absolute right anymore. This act is called ad hoc balancing, where a court or even a college examines the case by its unique facts.”

When talking about people who live on or off campus and posting online, it would be considered a unique case.

“I think it is right for colleges to be concerned about the images of their students and how they are presenting themselves out in the community,” said Igoe.

“Destroying property or anything off-campus that gives a bad name to the college I think they have a right to speak about it, but they do not have a right to do anything about it. At least according to the legal trends.”

Jacquelyn Demarco, a senior at Fredonia, does not regulate what she posts on social media.

“I post whenever I want and always re-share posts that I find funny.”

Upon discovering that her posts can be sent to the school if found offensive or crude, DeMarco responded, “When did this ever become a rule? Never in my four years here at Fredonia did I know that the school can hold us accountable for what we post online.”

On hearing about the student conduct rules that are present on Fredonia’s campus of online use, DeMarco said, “Do other students even know that these rules exist, like how come these rules were never really brought to our attention?”

Anna Mohan, a freshman

at Fredonia, loves spending her free time on social media platforms.

“Posting on social media is a way I can express myself to others,” she said.

Hearing about the conduct codes and how she could get in trouble caught her off guard.

“When coming to Fredonia, I remember freshman orientation talking about the student conduct, but I do not remember them saying anything about social media policies.”

“If students are posting offensive things about the school and post a picture [they should be penalized], but if it is not even on campus property, I feel they do not have a right.”

Even though it takes a lot to get in trouble with the university regarding what’s appropriate for social media, it always comes back to the basic saying: think before you post.

THE SCALLION



President Biden announces “Drugs are cool now!”



JOSEPH MARCINIAK
Former Editor of the Scallion

Graphic by Jenna Aguilar.

At a press conference on Sunday, press secretary Jen Psaki was talking about nuclear weapon deals or something when the president made a surprise appearance.

Reporters in the room say that he had a confused, jumbled look, and had some sort of white powder beneath his nose.

After a brief moment of silence and unassurance, the president finally grabbed the microphone and said loudly, “Here’s the deal: My whole life, my dad said that-that drugs were no good. He said, ‘Drugs are bad, Joe.’ And I believed him! But here’s the deal, I just met this guy, his name is Smithers, and he taught me all about the stuff. And folks, look, drugs are great. You can do drugs now, Uncle Joey won’t arrest ya!”

Again, there was a stunned silence in the room as the president stumbled back into the door from which he came.

Immediately, an executive order was signed declaring all drugs legal.

When approached for more questioning, the president seemed hostile, biting at anyone who came close.

“That was the most energy he’s ever had. I went in with my microphone and he quite literally bit the end off. He’s like a rabid dog,” a reporter for CNN said.

We went to a local park to ask questions to some teenagers doing drugs.

“What? I don’t know man,” one teenager said. “Why are you asking me questions?”

“Yeah, I’d smoke a bowl with Joe Biden,” another teenager said, which prompted the other teenagers to shout, “EWW!” and throw rocks at him.

How to make friends with the coronavirus, a step-by-step guide

JAY BYRON

Staff Scallywag

Over the winter break, I've had time to think about my friends — who is a real friend, who wants to be my friend and who needs a friend.

The more I think about it, the more I realize some people are very lonely and that hurts me deeply in the pits of my soul. I would hate to be lonely, especially now with only my roommate and my frog Beanie Baby to comfort me in times of need.

The only person to play Just Dance with me is my roommate, and they just watch me the whole time completely unamused.

I've had enough of it, so I'm going to make friends with someone who really needs it: the COVID-19 virus itself.

Now, I know what you're thinking: "Does the COVID-19 virus go by it/its/itself?" Well, in fact, it does. I asked it as soon as I started becoming friends with the COVID-19 virus, and that is one of the first steps to actually becoming its friend. Let's talk about it through an intensive step-by-step process that I have formulated over the course of this year.

1. Stop being scared

Alright, I understand this is the rhetoric COVID deniers use, but it's actually really useful for friendship reasons and people need to start doing it. Imagine if you said, "Wow you're really scary," to one of your friends right now (if you even have any). That would be really mean and your (hypothetical) friend would be very upset, and perhaps even yell at you. You would cry. Don't let yourself cry. Stop being scared!

2. Sweet-talk it

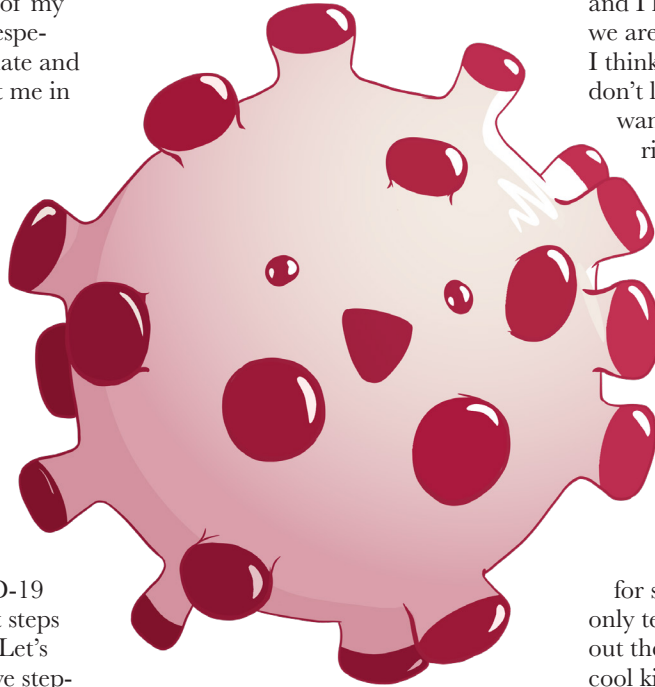
Yes, COVID may have the power to make you cough and stuff or whatever, but remember that it has a soul. Wouldn't you like to be sweet-talked? Because I understand many people may not actually know the ins and outs of sweet-talking like I do, I've made a list of some cool lines to use.

"You've got some nice viral surface

proteins, can I borrow some?"

"You must have some real good cute RNA!" Note: Use the word "cute" if you're feelin' it, and ONLY if you're feelin' it.

"Infectious? More like cardiac plexus" (??? I don't know what that means but it worked I think)???



Graphic by Malana Chen.

3. Ask for its pronouns

I've already told you its pronouns through this article, but it can never hurt to ask. You should just be doing this with everyone anyway for common courtesy's sake, and it shouldn't take a Scallion article to tell you to do so, but I'm here to give you some good advice so here it is.

4. TELL IT THAT YOU HAVE ASTHMA

I do not have asthma. However, this is absolutely crucial. It does not want to be your friend if you do not have asthma. I think it will also like you if you have anything wrong with your lungs, so if you smoke/vape/whatever you wanna do, you may be off the hook. Asthma, though, is just the perfect lie if you don't do those things on the reg. P.S. If you don't have asthma and you don't want to lie it will still tolerate you,

but it won't be friends with you like you'd want it to be.

5. Don't let your friends know that you have befriended it

Last time I told one of my friends that I became friends with COVID-19, they got really upset at me and I couldn't figure out why. Yes, COVID and I had been hanging out a lot, but we are buds, so that's what buds do. I think that they were just jealous, so don't let your friends know if you don't want them to get jealous. COVID right now is really popular, so it definitely takes a toll on you to have to be friends with someone so cool and famous. I think that's the main reason why they were so jealous!

Okay, so I just gave you five easy steps to befriend the coronavirus.

This works very well, as I have tried it myself and me and COVID are now besties. I must warn you of the downsides, though.

My roommate won't go near me for some reason. Also, my friends will only text me and when I ask to hang out they say no. It gets lonely being the cool kid.

I hope this list helps you. Please get back to me when you've befriended the coronavirus so we can all hang out together.

EDIT: So it turns out that I actually have CAUGHT the coronavirus and I am now sick. I literally am hacking up a lung. This is no longer fun. Too bad I already wrote this article and now I need to post it. DON'T DO THESE THINGS IT TURNS ON YOU!!!! I am in PAIN!!!!!!!!!! Was it worth it? NO please do NOT befriend the coronavirus, it backstabs you and THAT IS WHY IT HAS NO FRIENDS. (Do NOT BACKSTAB your FRIENDS). The coronavirus is basically that girl in high school who became a nursing major and said "I hope you trip on a rock" while playing soccer in second grade (and then you do and you cry because no one is your friend).

Don't let this be you!!!!!! LEARN FROM MY MISTAKES!

Heartwarming! A **shrimp** really did **fry** this **rice**

BRIAN CECALA

Staff Scallywag

By all known laws of biology, a shrimp should not have the ability to fry rice.

Yet when I heard rumors around the campus of not one, but multiple local establishments selling shrimp fried rice I knew I had to get the scoop.

What I was about to uncover was bigger than I could have imagined.

For purposes of my safety, and the exceedingly handsome and smart editors at The Leader as well as those around me, I have chosen to censor the names and establishments involved.

First, I went down to [REDACTED], an Asian-style restaurant on the main strip known for its delicious noodles and tea that tastes like Boba Fett or something.

I scanned their menu looking for the unusual treat of rice that has been fried personally by a decapod crustacean.

To my surprise, not only did I find they offered it, but they also offered rice that has been fried by a CHICKEN?

When the kind lady taking my order asked for my choice I asked her, "So... you're telling me a shrimp fried this rice?" I pointed to the picture on the menu. She laughed, but I didn't get an answer, so I asked again: "You're telling me... that a shrimp fried this rice and you give it to me and I eat it?"

Her laughing stopped. Her face was emotionless and she stared at me unblinking. We stood in each other's silence, the palpable tension sweating down our faces.

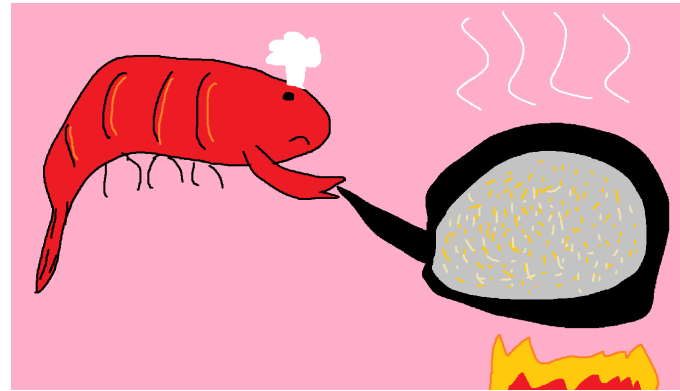
"Don't ask questions you don't want the answers to," she finally said.

What did she mean by this?

But before I could even start to retort, she had quickly picked up a hot bowl of ramen and threw it in my face. The delicious noodles that I had once enjoyed now burning my flesh and causing immense pain. Through the oily burning, I see her running to the back in a sprint.

I yelled, "You can't hide anything from me! I'm a respected journalist for The Scallion!"

I burst through the doors and saw the lady trying to shove a chicken into her jacket. In the clutches of the chicken was a spatula. All over the kitchen were various other animals cooking meals.



Graphic by Brian Cecala.

A cow was arranging some sushi rolls, a fish was kneading dough for noodles and yes, a shrimp was frying some rice.

I asked the shrimp, "What's going on here?"

He told me the long history of animals being forced to make food for restaurants. To save money, restaurants around the world have been hiring more animals to cook the food because the federal minimum wage for animals is \$3.21.

How can you help? How can you be an ally to shrimp frying rice everywhere?

Anytime you see "shrimp fried rice" on a menu, you ask the waiter: "You telling me a shrimp fried this rice?" If they say yes, you immediately start chanting: "No justice! No peace! Not till crustaceans get their equal piece!"

I freed Jonathan the Shrimp and his animal friends from their oppressive labor and they opened their own restaurant in New York City named "The Olive Garden." A heartwarming tale for these animals indeed.

Unfortunately, Fredonia still allows the exploitation of animal workers.

This means [REDACTED] can still sell their teas shaped like Star Wars characters.

Join the fight to unite for what's right; raise the animal minimum wage to a livable \$5 an hour.

For one last time: I am the **editor of the Scallion**, and I have **really long legs** now

JOSEPH MARCINIAK

Former Editor of the Scallion

Well folks, this is it: my last article as editor.

After much thought, I have decided to take my extended legs and take them home, since I am retiring. I have claimed my pension, and all my benefits.

I, Joseph Marciniak, humble servant of the Scallion, have been a contributing member of the Scallion for almost three years now, and editor for almost two years.

In that time I became very buff, building my muscles to be huge.

Not one week later, I lost the muscles.

About a month ago, I gained very long stretchy legs.

I've grown so much taller.

If there's anything I take away from my time at the Scallion, do NOT f*ck with Elmer Ploetz. He's got eyes on every corner in Fredonia, and I respect that.

You better respect that too, lest you'll end up like ol' Jimmy who sleeps with the fishes now.

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Anyways, away from all the wishy washy goodbye BS, I wanted to talk about my legs. They are very long now, as you can likely see from the beautiful illustration. I use them to walk around campus. Students point and shout, "Wow, he's got long legs!" and I respond, "Yes, I have long legs! Well done!"

My legs can be utilized for many different purposes. Let's focus on the most important one.

My legs can save humanity from the evils of capitalism. Believe it or not, my ex-

tended legs are extremely proficient in the critique of capitalism. It screams under my jeans about democratizing the workplace and stuff like that.

On that note, I think I'll end this article here.

Thank you readers, for your continued reading of my weird-ass articles.

I couldn't be more thankful for this job I've had for a few years, and every time I heard someone laugh at one of my articles it would always brighten my day.



Joe shows off his new legs. Courtesy of Fredonia.edu.

HOROSCOPES

HANNAH BLIDY - Staff Scallywag

ARIES

oh my god you've actually been showing emotions???

you're hanging out with cancer way too much.



TAURUS

you need to eat more vegetables.



GEMINI

#NotAllGeminisAreTwoFaced
#ButEnoughAre



CANCER

i feel like you've been painting your nails black recently. why are you feeling so angsty? maybe it's because you're hanging out with aries too much.



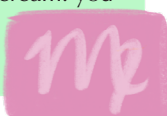
LEO

i've recently started thinking that i should become a stand up comedian. i'm not that funny, as sagittarius knows, but i think after a glass of wine i could really do something great. let me know what you think.



VIRGO

it's not that deep. you're overthinking it. you know that americone dream is the best ben and jerry's ice cream. you just have to admit it to yourself.



LIBRA

beautiful as always, and just as humble. ☐



SCORPIO

you're an honorary fire sign because of how messy you are but don't forget your roots.



SAGITTARIUS

gamestop? more like gimme some more money, ami-right????? (i know this is a bad joke i'm really sorry but it's the best i can do at the moment).



CAPRICORN

you are legally required to talk in an australian accent until i tell you to stop, starting... now!



AQUARIUS

aquarius sounds like it should be a water sign but it's not, it's an air sign. this is the prank of the century.



PISCES

you should invest in bitcoin unironically.



